

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A mobile telephone comprising:
 - a ringer to provide audible alert of an incoming telephone call;
 - a ringer schedule interface to receive a ringer control schedule, the ringer control schedule indicating times at which a parameter of the ringer is to change;
 - and
 - a ringer controller to automatically change the parameter of the ringer according to the ringer control schedule.
2. The mobile telephone of claim 1 wherein the ringer control schedule indicates, for each day of the week, the times at which the parameter is to change.
3. The mobile telephone of claim 2 wherein the ringer control schedule comprises a first time for a first day of the week at which the ringer is to be turned off, and a second time for the first day of the week at which the ringer is to be turned back on.
4. The mobile telephone of claim 3 wherein the ringer control schedule for a second day of the week differs from that for the first day of the week.
5. The mobile telephone of claim 1 wherein the change in the ringer is selected from turning the ringer off, turning the ringer on, changing a ring tone, and changing a ring volume.
6. The mobile telephone of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a display device; and
 - a user input device;wherein the ringer schedule interface uses the display device to display at least part of the ringer control schedule and the user input device to create at least part of the ringer control schedule.

7. The mobile telephone of claim 1 further comprising:
an interface to an external device;
wherein the ringer schedule interface uses the interface to receive at least part of
the ringer control schedule created using and downloaded by the external
device.
8. The mobile telephone of claim 7 wherein the interface comprises a short-range
wireless interface.
9. The mobile telephone of claim 8 wherein the short-range wireless interface
comprises a BLUETOOTH interface.
10. The mobile telephone of claim 7 wherein the interface comprises a data port.
11. The mobile telephone of claim 1 further comprising a control to override the
ringer control schedule.

12. A mobile telephone comprising:

a ringer to audibly alert of an incoming telephone call;

a display device;

a user input device;

a ringer schedule interface to receive a ringer control schedule, the ringer control schedule indicating times at which a parameter of the ringer is to change, wherein the ringer schedule interface uses the display device to display at least part of the ringer control schedule and the user input device to create at least part of the ringer control schedule; and

a ringer controller to automatically change the parameter of the ringer according to the ringer control schedule;

wherein the ringer control schedule indicates, for each day of the week, the times at which the parameter is to change; and

wherein the ringer control schedule comprises a first time for a first day of the week at which the ringer is to be turned off, and a second time for the first day of the week at which the ringer is to be turned back on.

13. The mobile telephone of claim 12 further comprising a control to override the ringer control schedule.

14. The mobile telephone of claim 12 wherein the ringer control schedule for a second day of the week differs than that for the first day of the week.

15. The mobile telephone of claim 12 wherein the change in the parameter of the ringer is selected from turning the ringer off, turning the ringer on, changing a ring tone, and changing a ring volume.

16. A mobile telephone comprising:
a ringer to audibly alert of an incoming telephone call;
a display device;
a user input device;
an interface to interface with an external device;
a ringer schedule interface to receive a ringer control schedule, the ringer control schedule indicating times at which a parameter of the ringer is to change, wherein the ringer schedule interface uses the display device to display at least part of the ringer control schedule and the user input device to create part of the ringer control schedule, and wherein the ringer schedule interface uses the interface to receive another part of the ringer control schedule created using and downloaded thereto by the external device; and
a ringer controller to automatically change the parameter of the ringer according to the ringer control schedule.

17. The mobile telephone of claim 16 wherein the interface comprises a short-range wireless interface.

18. The mobile telephone of claim 17 wherein the short-range wireless interface comprises a BLUETOOTH interface.

19. The mobile telephone of claim 16 wherein the interface comprises a data port.